(22) International Filing Date:

(30) Priority data:

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION International Bureau



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 5:
C12N 1/21, C07K 3/00
A1
(11) International Publication Number: WO 91/08285
(43) International Publication Date: 13 June 1991 (13.06.91)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US90/06979
(81) Designated States: AT, AT (European patent), AU, BB, BE (European patent), BF (OAPI patent), BG, BJ (OAPI

442,652 29 November 1989 (29.11.89) US

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(81) Designated States: AT, AT (European patent), AU, BB, BE (European patent), BF (OAPI patent), BG, BJ (OAPI patent), BR, CA, CF (OAPI patent), CG (OAPI patent), CH, CH (European patent), CM (OAPI patent), DE, DE (European patent), DK, DK (European patent), ES, ES (European patent), FI, FR (European patent), GA (OAPI patent), GB (European patent), GR (European patent), HU, IT (European patent), JP, KP, KR, LK, LU, LU (European patent), MC, MG, ML (OAPI patent), MR (OAPI patent), MW, NL, NL (European patent), NO, RO, SD, SE, SE (European patent), SN (OAPI patent), SU, TD (OAPI patent), TG (OAPI patent).

Published

With international search report.

Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: PRODUCTION OF RECOMBINANT HUMAN INTERLEUKIN-1 INHIBITOR

29 November 1990 (29.11.90)

(57) Abstract

A method for the production of commercial quantities of highly purified interleukin-1 inhibitor (IL-li) from a recombinant host is disclosed. A preferred recombinant *E. coli* host for sue in this method is also disclosed.

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WO 91/08285 PCT/US90/06979

PRODUCTION OF RECOMBINANT HUMAN INTERLEUKIN-1 INHIBITOR BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

In the recombinant-DNA field, many proteins have be not purposes. However, even though techniques to produce research quantities of these proteins have been optimized, these laboratory production and purification processes are often inadequate to produce commercial quantities of the desired protein which is of a quality sufficient to be used as a human pharmaceutical.

In order to produce commercial quantities of a given protein of an appropriate quality, unique fermentation, isolation, and purification techniques are often required. Moreover, the combination of the techniques and the order in which they are practiced often affect the amount of the protein recovered and the purity of the final product.

As previously described in co-pending U.S. patent applications Serial Numbers 199,915, 238,713, 248,521 and 266,531 filed May 27, 1988, August 31, 1988, September 23, 1988, and November 3, 1988, respectively, a unique protein named human interleukin-1 inhibitor has been isolated. These applications, specifically incorporated herein by reference, also describe methods for producing recombinant human interleukin-1 inhibitor, hereinafter referred to as "IL-li," in laboratory quantities in transformed organisms useful in laboratory methods. However, these methods did not result in production of commercial quantities of IL-li of a quality suitable for administration to humans.

The present inventors have found certain combinations of fermentations, isolation, and purification techniques which are capable of producing commercial quantities of highly purified IL-1i. These methods are described in this application. As used, herein, the term "commercial quantities" is intended to mean at least several to tens to hundreds of grams of highly purified product obtained from each 100 liters of fermentation broth. By "highly purified product" is meant a material of sufficient purity to be administered to humans. In a preferred embodiment, "highly purified product" has less than 5 E.U. per dose of endotoxin and less than 0.0025% contamination by E. coli protein.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of the present invention to provide a method for the production of commercial quantities of recombinant human interleukin-l inhibitor. This object is achieved by the methods described herein.

In order to achieve these objects, an improved strain for the production of IL-1i is described herein. That strain, named SGE90, is capable of producing at least 50 grams of highly purified IL-1i per 100 liters of fermentation broth when used in the methods described herein.

One method which is preferred for production of commercial quantities of the highly purified IL-li described herein includ s the following steps:

- (1) fermentation;
- (2) cell processing, including:

- (a) c ll r covery,
- (b) lysis, and
- (c) clarification of the lysat s;
- (3) a first ion exchange step;
- (4) a second ion exchange step;
- (5) the final processing steps including concentration and diafiltration.

A third ion exchange step may be optionally added to achieve even greater product purity.

In a preferred embodiment, the fermentation step is carried out in microorganisms, particularly <u>E. coli</u>, while the first ionic exchange step is conducted with a column filled with the cation exchange resin S-Sepharose. Also in the preferred embodiment, the second ion exchange step is conducted with a column filled with an anion exchange resin, preferably Q-Sepharose. If the optional third ion exchange step is added, a column filled with a cation exchange resin, preferably S-Sepharose, is used.

It is to be understood that both the foregoing general description and the following detailed description are exemplary and explanatory only, and are not restrictive of the invention as claimed. The accompanying drawings, which are incorporated in and constitute a part of this specification, illustrates various embodiments of the invention and, together with the description, serve to explain the principles of the invention.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 d picts the construction of pRJ1 and pRJ2 as s t forth in Example 1.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Reference will now be made in detail to the presently preferred embodiments of the invention, which, together with th following examples, serve to explain the principles of the invention.

As noted above, the present invention relates to a process for the production of commercial quantities of IL-li. As used herein, the term "commercial quantities" is intended to mean that at least several to tens to hundreds of grams of highly purified product from each 100 liters of fermentation broth are produced.

As noted previously, one of the preferred methods for production of commercial quantities of IL-li described herein includes the following steps:

- (1) fermentation of <u>E. coli</u> comprising a plasmid containing a DNA encoding IL-li;
 - (2) cell processing, including:
 - (a) cell recovery,
 - (b) lysis, and
 - (c) clarification of the lysates;
 - (3) a first ion exchange step;
 - (4) a second ion exchange step;
 - (5) the final processing steps including concentration

and diafiltration.

An optional third ion exchange step may also be conducted. Such an optional step would b p rformed immediately after the second ion exchange step.

The fermentation and cell processing steps for use in <u>E. Coli</u> contemplated in this invention include those routinely known to one of ordinary skill in the art. Preferred embodiments of the steps are set forth in the examples which follow. However, any comparable procedures may be inserted in the place of those preferred procedures set forth below.

The process for the production of commercial quantities of IL-li utilizes a first ion exchange column. As noted previously, the preferred column (described in Example 2), is filled with cationic S-sepharose resin. Other interchangeable resins may also be used, including but not limited to resins such as SP-C25 Sephadex, CM Sepharose, or CM cellulose. A second ion exchange column is then used for further purification of th IL-li. As noted above, in the preferred embodiment Q-Sepharos is used as an anion exchange resin in this column. In addition, other comparable resins including but not limited to resins such as DEAE-Sepharose, Q-Sephadex, or DEAE-cellulose may be employed.

In one embodiment of the present invention, a third ion exchange step is included immediately after the second ion exchange step. In this optional third step, a cation exchange column is used. This column preferably contains S-Sepharose resin, however other interchangeable resins may also be used.

Such other resins includ, but ar not limited to, SP-25 Sephadex, CM S phadex, CM Sepharos, CM cellulose or CM Toyopearl.

I llowing these steps, the final proc ss steps are undertaken. These include a concentration step, if desired, and 'diafiltration of the IL-li. The parameters of these steps are routinely known to those of ordinary skill in the art, in light on the teachings found in the examples which follow.

Important to the operation of this process is a suitable set of quantitative analytical tools to evaluate yield and purity.

As described in greater detail in the procedures in Example 4, the assays which have been developed for these purposes include a reverse phase HPLC (RP-HPLC) assay, an ion exchange HPLC (IE-HPLC), an SDS-PAGE assay, a size exclusion assay, a trypsin peptide map, and an assay for biological activity. When tested is the first four of these assays, the highly-purified IL-li produce by the present methods is greater than 90% pure. Preferably, whe tested in the IE-HPLC, the highly purified IL-li is at least 98% pure for both Mono Q and Mono S columns. Preferably, when tested in the SDS-PAGE assay, the highly purified IL-li is at least 99.5 pure, and is at least 98% pure when tested in size exclusion assay. The trypsin peptide map of the highly purified IL-li matches the pattern theoretically expected. The highly purified IL-li demonstrates inhibition of IL-l in the bioassay.

The following examples are provided to illustrate certain preferred embodiment of the present invention. These examples at intended to be illustrative only and are not intended to limit the scope of the claims appended hereto. All references provided in

these examples are specifically incorporated her in by referenc . EXAMPLE 1

 Transfer of the IL-li cDNA from a lambda phag to a Bluescript plasmid cloning vector.

The lambda phage GT10-IL-li-2a (ATCC #40488) was digested with EcoRI and the 1.7 kb fragment carrying the IL-li cDNA was purified by gel electrophoresis. This fragment was ligated to EcoRI-digested Bluescript SKM13-(Stratagene), resulting in the plasmid BS-IL-li#2.

- 2. Development of an IL-li expression vector using the "T7" system
- A. Description of pT5T.

The T7 expression vector used for IL-li production is called pT5T. It is essentially the same as pJU1003 [Squires, et al., J. Biol. Chem. (1988) 31:16297-16302], except that there is a short stretch of DNA between the unique Bgl2 site 5' to the T7 promoter and the Clal site in the tetracycline resistance gene. The sequence of this DNA is:

ATCGATGATA AGCTGTCAAA CATGAGAATT GAGCTCCCCG GAGATCCTTA GCGAAAGCTA Cla1

AGGATTTTTT TT<u>AGATCT</u> Bq12

The vector was linearized with BamH1 and Smal restriction enzymes. The plasmid BS-IL-li#2 was digested with PflM1 and Scal and the 453 bp fragment carrying the sequence coding for amino acids 4 to 152 of the mature IL-li gene along with the termination codon and 3 bp of the 3' untranslated region was purified by polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis. Oligonucleotides with the sequences:

5' GATCCATTGGAGGATGATTAAATGCCGCCCT 3'
3' GTAACCTCCTACTAATTTACGGC 5'

were synthesized, phosphorylated at their 5' ends and annealed. These oligonucleotides contain sequences essential for the translational coupling of the T7 \$\phi\$10 gene to the IL-1i gene. A mixture containing the annealed oligonucleotides, the linearized vector fragment and the 453 bp IL-1i gene fragment was treated with T4 DNA ligase and then used to transform the E. coli strain JM109 (See Figure 1).

B. Mutagenesis of IL-li.

Once a plasmid was isolated and shown to have the correct sequence, it was designated pRJ1. pRJ1 carries sequences coding for a variant of the IL-li protein. The amino-terminal sequence of this variant is Met-Pro-Pro-Ser-... rather than Arg-Pro-Ser-... which is the aminoterminal sequence of the natural human prot in. The aim here was to express a protein that is as close as possible to the natural protein, and that was done by mutagenizing the DNA coding for the IL-li protein such that it codes for Met-Arg-Pro-Ser-..., as follows. The gene for IL-li in pRJ1 was removed by digesting the plasmid at the unique BamH1 and Pst1 sites. The 1375 bp fragment was cloned between the BamH1 and Pst1 sites of M13 mp 19 and designated M13-IL-li1. Oligonucleotid site directed mutagenesis was performed on isolated single stand, DNA of M13IL-li1 according to the procedure described in the

BioRad Mutagen mutag n sis kit. Th mutagenic oligonucl otide sequence is given below, along with th corresponding amino terminal amino acid sequ nce of the mutated IL-li:

5' TGATTAAATGCGTCCGTCTGGGAG 3' M R P S G R

This mutagenesis produced M13IL-1i2 which differs from M13IL-1i1 in that the IL-1i protein encoded on this plasmid has the desired amino-terminal sequence and that the codons for Arg and Pro ar those used preferably by E. coli.

C. Expression of IL-li protein.

The mutagenized IL-Li gene was then transferred back into pT5T using the same procedure as described above. This second expression plasmid is designated pRJ2. pRJ2 was transformed into the E. coli strain BL21 (DE3) for expression. This strain [described in Studier and Moffat J. Mol. Biol. (1986) 189:113-130] contains the T7 RNA polymerase gene under control of the IPTG inducible lac promoter on a nonexcisable lysogenic lambda bacteriophage. High level expression of rIL-li was achieved by growing the cells [BL21(DE3)pRJ2] in Luria broth with 15 μ g/ml tetracycline up to a cell density corresponding to an Λ_{600} of 0.8 IPTG was added to a final concentration of 1.0 mM and the cells were allowed to grow for four hours. The cells were harvested by centrifugation and the rIL-li was purified from the soluble c 11 lysate by standard protein chemistry techniques.

- 3. Development of an IL-li expression v ctor using th "tac promoter" system.
 - A. Pr paration of pDD1.

The plasmid pJU 1003 (Squires, et al.) was cut with Hind3 and BamH1 and fused to a synthetic Human Pancreatic Secretory Trypsin Inhibitor (HPSTI) gene whose sequence is:

EcoR1 GAATTCGATA TCTCGTTGGA GATATTCATG ACGTATTTTG GATGATAACG CTTAAGCTAT AGAGCAACCT CTATAAGTAC TGCATAAAAC CTACTATTGC AGGCGCAAAA AATGAAAAAG ACAGCTATCG CGATCGCAGT GGCACTGGCT TCCGCGTTTT TTACTTTTTC TGTCGATAGC GCTAGCGTCA CCGTGACCGA GGTTTCGCTA CCGTAGCGCA GGCTGACTCT CTGGGTCGTG AAGCTAAGTG CCAAAGCGAT GGCATCGCGT CCGACTGAGA GACCCAGCAC TTCGATTCAC CTACAACGAA CTGAACGGTT GCACTAAAAT CTACAACCCG GTATGTGGTA GATGTTGCTT GACTTGCCAA CGTGATTTTA GATGTTGGGC CATACACCAT CCGACGGTGA CACCTACCCG AACGAATGCG TGCTGTGCTT CGAAAACCGT GGCTGCCACT GTGGATGGGC TTGCTTACGC ACGACACGAA GCTTTTGGCA AAACGTCAGA CCTCCATCCT GATCCAGAAA TCTGGTCCGT GCTAAGTCGAC TTTGCAGTCT GGAGGTAGGA CTAGGTCTTT AGACCAGGCA CGATTCAGCTG Hind 3 CCTGCAGAAG CTT... GGACGTCTTC GAA...

by cutting the HPSTI gene with PvuI and Hind3 and ligating the PvuI/Hind3 fragment to the BamHI-Hind3 cut plasmid using a double stranded oligonucleotide adaptor with the sequence:

5' GAT CCG ATC TTG GAG GAT GAT TAA ATG AAA AAG ACC GCT ATC
3' GC TAG AAC CTC CTA CTA ATT TAC TTT TTC TGG CGA TAG

GCC AT 3'

This synthetic HPSTI gen cod s for a prot in consisting of the signal (or lead r) peptid for the <u>E. coli ompA</u> protein fus d to the mature HPSTI protein. Thus, the purpose of this manipulation was to incorporate sequences coding for the <u>ompA</u> signal peptide into pJU 1003, for work described below. The resulting plasmid is pDD1. Plasmid pDD1 was digested with BstX1 and Hind3.

B. Construction of pDD3. Addition of <u>E. coli</u> translational signals to the IL-li cDNA.

The plasmid pT5T (described above) was cut with BamH1 and Smal. The plasmid BS-IL-li#2 was cut with the PflM1 and Scal, releasing a fragment 453 bp in length which codes for a portion o: the IL-li protein (see above). The BamH1/Smal cut pT5T, the 453 bp IL-li fragment, and an oligonucleotide adaptor with the sequence:

5' GA TCC ATC GCA GTG GCA CTG GCT GGT TTC GCT ACC GTA GCG
3' G TAG CGT CAC CGT GAC CGA CCA AAG CGA TGG CAT CGC

CAG GCC CGT CCC T 3'GTC CGG GCA G 5'

were fused to produce the plasmid pDD2. Plasmid pDD2 was cut with BstX1 and Hind3, releasing a 499 bp fragment which codes for all of the IL-li protein and a portion of the ompA signal sequenc. This 499bp fragment was fused to BstX1/Hind3 cut pDD1, resulting in the plasmid pDD3.

C. Construction of pT3XI-2. Modification of pKK223-3.

The starting plasmid for this construction was plasmid pKK223-3 purchased from Pharmacia. Plasmid pKK223-3 carries a partial gene for tetracycline resistance. This non-functional gene was replaced by a complete tetracycline resistance gene carried on plasmid pBR322. Plasmid pKK223-3 was digested

compl tely with Sphl and partially with BamHl. A 4.4 kilobase pair fragment was gel purified and combined with a synthetic adaptor with the sequence:

- 5' GATCTAGAATTGTCATGTTTGACAGCTTATCAT 3'
- 3' ATCTTAACAGTACAAACTGTCGAATAGTAGC 5'

and a 539 base pair fragment of DNA from a Cla1 - Sph1 digest of the tetracycline resistance gene of pBR322 (PL Biochemicals, 27-4891-01). The resulting plasmid was designated pCJ1.

Next a Xhol linker purchased from New England Biolabs was inserted into plasmid pCJI's PvuII site to form plasmid pCJX-1. This insertion disrupts the <u>rop</u> gene which controls plasmid copy number. An EcoRl fragment containing the lacl gene was purified from plasmid pMC9 [Calos, et al., <u>Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</u> (1983), 80:3015-3019] then inserted into the Xhol site with Xhol to EcoRl adaptors having the sequence:

- 5' TCGAGTCTAGA 3'
- 3' CAGATCTTTAA 5'

The polylinker sequence between the EcoR1 and Pst1 sites in plasmid pKK223-3 was next replaced with a polylinker sequence shown here:

5' AATTCCCGGG TACCAGATCT GAGCTCACTA GTCTGCA 3'
3' GGGCCC ATGGTCTAGA CTCGAGTGAT CAG 5'

The plasmid vector so obtained is designated pCJXI-1.

Finally, the tetracycline resistance gene was replaced with a similar gene which had the recognition sites for restriction .

enzymes Hind3, BamH1, and Sal1 destroyed by bisulfite mutagenesis.

The following procedure was used to mutate the tetracycline

r sistance g n of pBR322. Plasmid pB322 was cut with Hind3, then mutagenized with sodium bisulfite [Shortle and Nathans, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA (1978) 5:2170-2174)]. The mutagenzied DNA was ligated to form circular DNA, then cut with Hind3 to linearize any plasmid that escaped mutagenesis. E. coli JM109 [Yanish-Perron et al., Gene (1985) 33:103-119] was transformed with the plasmid, then plated on selective media. Plasmids were isolated from tetracycline resistance colonies and checked for loss of the Hind3 site in the tetracycline resistance gene. Th successfully mutated plasmid was designated pT1. A similar procedure was followed to mutagenzie the BamHl site in pTl, yielding plasmid pT2. Plasmid pT2 in turn was mutagenized to remove the Sall site, forming plasmid pT3. A Cla1-BsmH1 fragment of pT3 carrying the mutated tetracycline resistance gene was isolated and used to replace the homologous fragment of pCJXI-1 to form pT3XI-2. The mutated tetracycline resistance gene still encodes a functional protein.

D. Formation of pT3XI-2-010TC3FGFsyn. Preparing the tac promoter vector for IL-1i.

Initially a "gene" for basic Fibroblast Growth Factor (FGF) was synthesized. This "gene" codes for the same sequence as that reported for FGF by Sommer et al., but uses the codons that ar found preferably in highly expressed genes in <u>E. coli</u>. The structure of this is such that the coding portion is preceded by a translational coupler sequence (see Squires, et al., 1988) to ensure efficient initiation of translation.

The FGF synthetic gene was first ins rted into M13mp18 between the EcoR1 and Hind3 sites and sequenced. The structure α this g n is:

AATTCAGGA TCCGATCGTG GAGGATGATT AAATGGGTAC CATGGCTGCT GGCTCCATCA. GTCCT AGGCTAGCAC CTCCTACTAA TTTACCCATG GTACCGACGA CCGAGGTAGT __FGFstart RBS EcoRI BamHI Translational Coupler 3 CTACCCTGCC GGCACTGCCG GAAGACGGTG GCTCCGGTGC TTTCCCGCCG GGCCACTTCA GATGGGACGG CCGTGACGGC CTTCTGCCAC CGAGGCCACG AAAGGGCGGC CCGGTGAAGT AAGACCCGAA ACGTCTGTAC TGTAAAAACG GTGGCTTCTT CCTGCGTATC CACCCGGATG TTCTGGGCTT TGCAGACATG ACATTTTTGC CACCGAAGAA GGACGCATAG GTGGGCCTAC GTCGTGTCGA CGGCGTACGT GAAAAAAGCG ACCCGCACA TCAAACTGCA GCTGCAGGCTC CAGCACAGCT TGCCGCATGC ACTITITTCC TGGGCGTGT AGTTTGACGT CGACGTCCGAC AAGAACGTG GTGTTGTATC TATCAAAGGC GTTTGCGCAA ACCGTTACCT GGCTATGAAAC TTCTTGCAC CACAACATAG ATAGTTTCCG CAAACGCGTT TGGCAATGGA CCGATACTTTC AAGACGGTC GTCTGCTGGC TAGCAAATGT GTAACTGACG AATGTTTCTT CTTCGAACGTC TTCTGCCAG CAGACGACCG ATCGTTTACA CATTGACTGC TTACAAAGAA GAAGCTTGCA TGGAAAGCA ACAACTACAA CACCTACCGT TCTCGTAAAT ACACTTCTTG GTACGTTGCT: ACCTTTCGT TGTTGATGTT GTGGATGGCA AGAGCATTTA TGTGAAGAAC CATGCAACGA TGAAACGTA CCGGCCAGTA CAAACTGGGT TCCAAAACTG GCCCGGGTCA GAAAGCAATC ACTITICAT GGCCGGTCAT GTTTGACCCA AGGTTTTGAC CGGGCCCAGT CTTTCGTTAG TGTTCCTGC CGATGAGCGC TAAATCTTAA ACTAGTA ACAAGGACG GCTACTCGCG ATTTAGAATT TGATCATTCGA FGFstop HinDIII

Relevant features of the gene are highlighted.

It was then isolated by digestion with BamH1 and Hind3 and inserted into BamH1/Hind3 cut pJU1003 (Squires, tal., 1988) yielding pJU1003-synFGF. This plasmid was cut with Xbal and Hind3 and the Xbal/Hind3 fragment carrying the FGF gene was isolated. This fragment was ligated into pT3X1-2 cut with EcoR1 and Hind3, using an EcoR1-Xbal linker:

- 5' PAAT TCC ACA ACG GTT TCC CT 3'
 3' GG TGT TGC CAA AGG GAG ATCP 5'
- The new plasmid is designated pT3XI-2-\$10TC3FGFsyn.

E. Formation of pDD4. Inserting IL-li into a tac promoter vector.

pT3XI-2-@10TC3FGFsyn was cut with BamH1 and Hind3, which resulted in the linearization of the 7.4 kb expression vector and the release of the insert DNA. The DNA was then cut with Ncol an Smal, which further fragmented the insert DNA. pDD3 was digested with BamH1 and Hind3 and the 546 bp IL-li fragment was gel purified and fused with the BamH1/Hind3-cut pT3XI-2-@10TC3FGFsyn 7.4 kb vector DNA fragment, resulting in the plasmid pDD4.

F. Formation of pDD5. Use of E. coli preferred codons.

The plasmid pDD4 carries DNA coding for the ompA signal sequence and the full length of the IL-1i protein as it was derived from the original cDNA. Plasmid pDD4 was cut with BamH1 and Spe1, thus releasing a small fragment (170 bp) carrying the sequences for the ompA signal peptide and the codons for the firs 29 amino acid residues of the IL-1i protein, and the large (7.8 kb) vector fragment. The large BamH1/Spe1 vector fragment was fused to two small fragments of DNA assembled from four synthetic oligonucl otides. The sequences of the se fragments ar :

- 16 -

5' GAT CCG ATC TTG GAG GAT GAT TAA ATG CGT CCG AGC GGC CGC
3' GC TAG AAC CTC CTA CTA ATT TAC GCA GGC TCG CCG GCG

SacI
AAG AGC TCC AAA AT
TTC TCG AGG TTT TAC GTC CG

5

5' G CAG GCT TTC CGT ATC TGG GAC GTT AAC CAG AAA ACC TTC TAC

A AAG GCA TAG ACC CTG CAA TTG GTC TTT TGG AAG ATG

CTG CGC AAC AAC CAA 3'
GAC GCG TTG TTG GTT GAT C 5'

These fragments carry sequences coding for the first 29 residues of the IL-1i protein using <u>E. coli</u> preferred codons [according to deBoer and Kastelein in <u>From Gene to Protein: Steps Dictating the Maximal Level for Gene Expression</u> (1986) Davis and Reznikoff, eds. pp. 225-283, Butterworths, NY] and a unique Sacl site after the sixth codon of IL-1i. The resulting plasmid is called pDD5.

G. Formation of pDD6. Changes to remove secondary structure in mRNA.

Plasmid pDD5 was digested with BamHl and Sacl. The large (7.8 kb) Vector fragment resulting from this digestion was ligated to a synthetic fragment of DNA:

5' GAT CCG ATC TTG GAG GAT GAT TAA ATG CGA CCG TCC GGC CGT 3' GC TAG AAC CTC CTA CTA ATT TAC GCT GGC AGG CCG GCA

AAG AGC T 3'

that codes for the first 6 residues of the IL-li protein, but utilizes codons that prevent the formation of any hairpin loops near the 5' end of the mRNA, especially involving the "Shin -Dalgarno" sequ no or the initiation codon for the IL-li

prot in. This result d in th formation of pDD6 which is th expression v ctor for production of IL-li. Plasmid pDD6 was transf rmed into JM107 to yield the production strain SGE90.

1. Production of IL-li from E. coli SGE90 Seed Growth.

Ampules of a culture of SGE90 are prepared to be used for seed as follows. A culture streak is grown on Luria agar supplemented with 15 mg/l tetracycline HCl at 37°C. A single colony is picked and grown in Luria broth supplemented with 15 mg/l tetracycline HCl at 37°C. Growth is monitored by absorbance at 660 nm (henceforth referred to an OD). When the culture reaches about 1 OD it is aseptically centrifuged and resuspended in 20% glycerol:Luria broth (1:1). It is then distributed into ampules (1.5 ml per ampule) and stored at -70°C. Working stocks are made from this cell bank by growing one ampule in Luria broth supplemented with 15 mg/l tetracycline HCl to about 1 OD, then preparing ampules as above.

The fermentor used is prepared by thawing ampules in 40°C tar water and inoculating 1 ml from the ampule prep into each of two 2 liter flasks containing 0.5 liter of Seed Media (Formula 1). Th flasks are incubated for about 8 hours on a shaker at 37°C at 350 rpm. The seed OD reaches about 3-4 by this time.

500 ml of the seed culture is used to inoculate 10 liters f Fermentation Media (Formula 2). This seed tank is then grown at 37°C for 5-6 hours with pH control at 7.0, until the OD reaches approximately 5. The seed tank is then used to inoculate the fermentor.

2. Fermentation.

The ferm ntation is carried out in 1600 liters of

Fermentation Media (Formula 2). Temperature is controlled at

37°C. Dissolved oxygen is maintained at 30% (saturation with air 'at 3 psig). pH is controlled at 7.0 by the addition of HC1 and NaOH as required.

Growth is monitored by OD. At approximately 10 OD synthesis of IL-li is induced by the addition of Isopropyl-B-D-thiogalactoside (IPTG) to a final concentration of 150 uM. Fermentation is continued until the culture reaches an OD of about 40. Cell yield is about 150 kg solids per 1600 liters of fermentation media.

3. Cell recovery and washing.

Cells are recovered using a desludging centrifuge (for example an Alfa Laval BTUX 510) and washed with 150 mM NaCl.

Cells are resuspended to approximately 16% solids in 150 mM NaCl and then frozen and stored at -20°C.

4. Cell rupture and debris removal

Fourteen kg of resuspended cells (about 2.2 kg solids) ar thawed. EDTA is added to 5 mM and the cells lysed with two passes through a high pressure homogenizer. The pH is adjusted to 5.5 using 1 M acetic acid. The lysate is diluted to 20±2 liters with water and clarified by centrifugation at 14,000 x G for 20 minutes.

- 5. Pirst Ion Exchange.
- (a) <u>Column Specifications</u>. The column used is an Amicon G300x250 filled with 7.5 liter of S-Sepharose resin

(Pharmacia). All solutions are pump d through the column at 500 ml/min.

(b) <u>Column Operation</u>. The following buffer sequence is used for each cycle on the column. Buffer formulas are given in Example 4.

	Solution	Formula Number	Volume
ļ	Equilibration	3	20 1
i	Clarified Cell lysate		15-25 1
İ	Equilibration	3	20 1
	Salt Gradient Elution*	3/4	40 1
İ	NaOH Wash	5	10 1
	Acetic Acid Wash	6	5 1
	Storage	7	20 1
I	_		

*Salt gradient is run from 150-400 mM NaC1.

Eluate is collected by following the absorbance at 280 nm and collecting the peak eluting during the salt gradient. Recovery is about 55 g of IL-ii in about 10 l of the pooled fractions from 20 l of clarified cell lysate.

- 6. Second Ion Exchange.
- (a) <u>Diafiltration</u>. The pooled eluate is concentrat d if desired using a YM10 membrane (Amicon) and then the salt is removed by diafiltration using 4 volumes of Second ion exchang Equilibration buffer (Formula 8). A precipitate which forms at this step is removed by filtration through 3 uM and 0.22 uM filters.

- (b) <u>Column Specifications</u>. Th column us d is an Amicon G180x250, filled with 5 liters of Q-Sepharose (Pharmacia). All solutions are pump d through the columns at 350 ml/min.
- (c) <u>Column Operation</u>. The following buffer sequence is used for each cycle on the column. Buffer formulas are give in Appendix A.

i	Solution	Formula Number	Volume
	Equilibration	8	20 1
1 ::	Diafiltrate		5-10 1
	Equilibration	8	20 1
	Salt Gradient Elution*	8/9	40 1
1	NaOH Wash	5	10 1
11111	Acetic Acid Wash	6	5 1
	Storage	7	20 1

. *Salt gradient is run from 0 to 100 mM NaC1.

Eluate is collected by following the absorbance at 280 nm and collecting the peak eluting during the salt gradient. Recov ry is about 45 g of IL-li in about 10 l of the pooled fractions from 7 l of Diafiltrate 1.

7. Final Processing.

(a) <u>Concentration and Diafiltration</u>. The pooled eluate from the second ion exchange column is concentrated to approximately 6 1 using YM10 membrane (Amicon). The material is then diafiltered against 5 volumes of Diafiltration buffer (Formula 10). Final concentration then takes place to approximately 1-2 1, with a target concentration of 10-30 g/1.

The precipitate which forms at this step is removed by filtration through 3 uM and 0.22 uM filters. The final concentrate is then filtered through a 0.22 uM filter into sterile, pyrogen free tubes and stored at -70°C. Recovery is about 80% from the pooled fractions from the second ion exchange column.

EXAMPLE 3

1. Removal of the N-terminal Methionine from E. coli produced IL-li

IL-li produced in <u>E. coli</u> has a sequence identical to that of IL-li-x from human monocytes with the exception that the N-terminus has an additional methionine residue. This residue can be removed by incubating the inhibitor with the exoprotease Aminopeptidase 1 from <u>S. cerevisiae</u>.

10 mg of recombinant IL-1i (from the first S-Sepharose or the Q-Sepharose step of purification) is incubated with 1 mg of Yeast Aminopeptidase 1 purified as described by Change and Smith (J. Biol. Chem. 264, 6979, (1989)), in 50 mM ammonium carbonate pH 8.0 for 6 hours. The desmethionyl IL-1i is purified from the reaction mixture by further S-Sepharose chromatography.

If wished, this step of the production process for desmethionyl can be avoided by expressing the IL-li in an E. coli which contains the cDNA for yeast Aminopeptidase 1 enzyme in a suitable expression vector. This E. coli should also be unable to express the gene for Aminopeptidase P (Yoshimoto et al. J. Biochem (Tokyo) 104 93 (1988) since removal of the N-terminal methionine will otherwise lead to removal of the N-terminal arginine.

It will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various modificati ns and variations can be made in the proc sses of the

present invention. Thus, it is intended that the present invention cover the modifications and variations of the seprocess seprovided the description of the appended claims and their equivalents.

EXAMPLE 4

A. Media and formula recipes

Formula Number	Step	Name	Components	Conc.
1	Fermentation	Seed Medium	Yeast Extract Tryptone NaCl Antifoam Tetracycline DI Water	5 g/l 10 g/l 10 g/l 0.2 ml/l 15 mg/l Q.S.
	,	mixed and the sodium hydroxi	s except tetracyclipH adjusted to 7.5 de. Tetracycline i added separately.	Alfu
2	Fermentation	Fermentation Media	NZ Amine HD KH,PO, MgSO, 7H,O NaSO, Sodium Citrate Glycarol Antifoam Trace minerals Thiamine HCl Tetracycline HCl DI Water	40 g/l 2 g/l 1 g/l 6 g/l 0.3 g/l 50 g/l ca. 3 ml/l 4 ml/l 10 mg/l 15 mg/l Q.S.
	•	sterilized tog	es through antifoam gether. Trace miner etracycline are fil dedd separately.	als,
		· Added as nee	ded.	
*	Fermentation	Antifoam	Macol 19 GE60 antifoam	750 ml/l 250 ml/l
**	Fermentation	Trace Minerals	FeCl, 6H,0 ZnCl, CoCl, 6H,0 Na,MoO, 6H,0 CaCl, 2H,0 CuCl, 2H,0 MnCl, 4H,0 H,BO, HCl, conc. DI Water	27 g/l 1.3 g/l 2 g/l 2 g/l 2.5 g/l 1.27 g/l 3.3 g/l 0.5 g/l 160 ml/l Q.S.

Formula		~ ~ /		
Number	Step	Name	Components	Солс.
3	First Ion	Equilibration	Sodium Acetate	25 mM
	Exchange		EDTA	1 mM
			NaCl	150 mm
			DI/UF Water	Q.S.
		Adjust pH to 5	.5 with 5M Acetic	Acid.
4	First Ion	Elution/High	Sodium Acetate	25 mM
	Exchange	Salt	EDTA	1 mM
	-		NaCl	400 mM
			DI/UF Water	Q.S.
		Adjust pH to 5	.5 with 5M Acetic	Acid.
5	First/Second	NaOH Wash	NaOH	0.2 M
	Ion Exchange		NaCl	1.0 M
	•		DI/UF Water	Q.S.
				Q.3.
6	First/Second	Acetic Acid	Acetic Acid	10 mM
	Ion Exchange		DI/UF Water	Q.S.
	•	4. **	32, 31233	· • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
7	First/Second		NaCl	1 M
	Ion Exchange	•	DI/UF Water	Q.s.
<u> </u>				
8	Second Ion	Equilibration	Histidine	20 mM
	Exchange		EDTA	1 mM
			DI/UF Water	Q.s.
		Adjust pH to 6.	.0 using 5M HCl.	
9	Second Ion	Elution/High	Histidine	20 mM
	Exchange	Salt	EDTA	1 mM
			NaCl	100 mM
			DI/UF Water	Q.S.
		Adjust pH to 6.	.0 using 5M HCl.	
10	Disellement	Diediterial	W-17 9 4	
10	ntgittcigfion	Diafiltration	NaH,PO,	10 mM
			EDTA	0.1 mM
			DI/UF Water	Q.S.
		Adjust to pH 7.	.0 using 5M NaOH.	1

B. Revers -Phase HPLC of IL-1i - Non Reducing Conditions

REVERSE-PHASE HPLC OF IL-11 - NON REDUCING CONDITIONS

HPLC SYSTEM:

Beckman 114 Solvent Delivery Module Beckman 165 Variable Wavelength Detector Beckman System Gold Analog Interface Module 406 Beckman System Gold, Personal Chromatograph Software

COLUMN:

Brownlee RP-300 (C8) (220 mm x 4.6mm, 7 micron)

DETECTOR SETTINGS:

Channel A, 215 nm Channel B, 280 nm Range: 0 - 0.05 AUFS

MOBILE PHASE:

A: 0.1% TFA in Water

B: 0.1% TFA in Acetonitrile

GRADIENT CONDITIONS:

Time (min)	Percent B	Duration	
o `	0	5	
5	30	30 (Start Gradie	ent)
35	50	40	
75	100	5 (End Gradient	۲)
85	0	5	-,
95	0	End	

FLOW RATE:

1.0 ml/min

SAMPLE PREPARATION:

Dilute sample to 0.1 - 0.5 mg/ml with water.

INJECTION VOLUME:

100 ul

CHEMICALS:

Chemical	Supplier	Cat. No.
TFA Acetonitrile, HPLC Grade	Sigma Bak r	T-6508 9017-03

c.

-26-

MONO Q HPLC OF IL-11

HPLC SYSTEM:

Beckman System Gold
Programmable Sovent Module 126
Scanning Detector Module 167
Remote Interface Module
HP Series 1050 Autosampler
System Gold, Personal Chromatograph Software

COLUMN:

Pharmacia Mono Q HR 5/5

DETECTOR SETTINGS:

280 nm

MOBILE PHASE:

A: 20 mM TRIS, pH 7.5

B: 20 mM TRIS, pH 7.5 + 250 mM NaCl

GRADIENT CONDITIONS:

0% to 100% B in 60 minutes

FLOW RATE:

0.5 ml/min

SAMPLE PREPARATION:

None

INJECTION AMOUNT:

25 ug

D.

-27-

MONO S HPLC OF IL-11

HPLC SYSTEM:

Beckman System Gold
Programmable Solvent Module 126
Scanning Detector Module 167
Remote Interface Module
HP Series 1050 Autosampler
System Gold, Personal Chromatograph Software

COLUMN:

Pharmacia Mono S HR 5/5

DETECTOR SETTINGS:

280 nm

MOBILE PHASE:

A: 25 mM NaAc, pH 5.5 + 1 mM EDTA

B: 25 mM NaAc, pH 5.5 + 1 mM EDTA + 500 mM NaCl

GRADIENT CONDITIONS:

0% to 60% B in 36 minutes.

FLOW RATE:

0.5 ml/min

SAMPLE PREPARATION

None

INJECTION AMOUNT:

25 ug

E.

-28-

SIZE EXCLUSION HPLC OF IL-1i

HPLC SYSTEM:

Beckman 114 Solvent Delivery Module Beckman 165 Variable Wavelength Detector Beckman System Gold Analog Interface Module 406 Beckman System Gold, Personal Chromatograph Software

COLUMN:

Bio-Sil TSK 250 (7.5 mm x 30 cm)

DETECTOR SETTING:

280 mm

Range: 0 - 0.2 AU

MOBILE PHASE:

25mM Na Acetate and 0.5M NaCl, pH 5.5

FLOW RATE:

0.5 mls/min

SAMPLE PREPARATION:

Dilute IL-1i solution with mobile phase to a final concentration of approximately 2 mg/ml

INJECTION VOLUME:

50 ul

F. REDUCING SDS PAGE OF IL-1i

GEL PREPARATION:

Foll w procedure outlined by Lammli in J. Mol. Biol., 80, 575-599 (1973).

SEPARATING GEL:

Acrylamide	15%
TRIS pH 8.8	375 mM
SDS	0.1%

STACKING GEL:

Acrylamide	pН	6.8	54
SDS	•		0.1%

SAMPLE PREPARATION:

Sample is diluted 1:1 with Sample Buffer. The samples are then heated for 15 minutes at 65°C, spun and loaded onto the gel.

SAMPLE BUFFER:

TRIS pH 6.8	250mM
SDS	2.5%
2-Mercaptoethanol	5%
Gycerol	12.5%

ELECTROPHORESEIS CONDITIONS:

50 V until samples have reached the separating gel. 100V until the bromophenol blue runs out of the gel.

STAINING:

Ethanol	45.4%
Acetic Acid	9.0%
Water	45.5%
Coomassie Brilliant Blue	2.59

Stain overnight at room temperature with gentle shaking.

DESTAINING:

Methanol	30.0%
Acethic Acid	12.5%
Water	57.5%

Destain overnight or until background is clear at room temperatur.

MOLECULAR WEIGHT STANDARDS:

Low Molecular Weight Range (BRL):

Protein	Reported MW	
Insulin (A and B) Bovine Trypsin Inhibitor Lysozyme B-Lactoglobulin Alpha-Chymotrypsin Ovalbumin	2,300 and 3,400 5,200 14,300 18,400 25,700 43,000	

5 ug of the protein mixture is loaded onto the SDS PAGE gel.

G. TRYPSIN PEPTIDE MAP OF RECOMBINANT HUMAN IL-1i

PROCEDURE:

1. Reagents

- 1.1 Trypsin sequencing grade; Boehringer Mannheim GmbH.
- 1.2 Urea ultra pure; BRL.
- 1.3 Milli-Q water.
- 1.4 Trifluoroacetic acid; Pierce.
- 1.5 HPLC grade acetonitrile; J.T. Baker.
- 1.6 Tris
- 1.7 CaCl₂

2. Equipment

2.1 HPLC system

Beckman 114 Solvent Delivery Module
Beckman 165 Variable Wavelength Detector
Beckman System Gold Analog Interface Module 406
Beckman System Gold, Personal Chromatograph
Software

2.2 Column

BrowLee RP-300 (C8) (220mm x 4.6mm, 7 micron)

2.3 Heating/cooling water bath

3. Solution

- 3.1 Trypsin; Dissolve 0.1 mg in 0.1 ml of 0.1mM HCl; Store frozen at -20°C, stable for months without loss of activity.
- 3.2 Urea: 8 M urea in Milli Q water, make fresh daily.
- 3.3 2M Tris HCl pH 8.0 and 0.1M Tris HCl pH 8.0.
- 3.4 3mM CaCl₂

4. Method

- 4.1 Denature of IL-1i in 6M urea and 0.1M Tris pH 8.0 final concentration at about 3 mg/ml protein for 10 minutes at 37°C.
- 4.2 Dilute into a solution of 0.1M Tris HCl pH 8.0 containing 0.3mM CaCl₂ (1:2 vol/vol) to give a final concentration of 2M urea.
- 4.3 Add trypsin solution (solution number 3.1) to give 1% by weight of the protein. Mix well.
- 4.4 Incubate at 37°C for 1 hr and additional 1% by weight of trypsin is added.
- 4.5 Stop digest after an addtional 3 hrs by freezing at -20°C or by acidification with 10% trifluoro-acetic acid, final concentration 0.1%.
- 4.6 Inject onto the HPLC column.
- 5. Reverse-phase of peptide fragments produced by trypsin digestion.
 - 5.1 HPLC system and column as in Section 2.
 - 5.2 Detector settings:

Channel A: 215 mm Channel B: 200 mm Range: 0-0.5 AU

5.3 Mobile phase:

A: 0.1% TFA in water

B: 0.1% TFA in acetonitrile

5.4 Gradient conditions

Time (min)	Percent B	Duration
0	0	0
5	40	80
85	.100	5
95	0	. 5
120	0	End

5.5 Flow rate

1.0 ml/min

- 5.6 Sample preparation none
- 5.7 Injection volume 50 to 100 ul

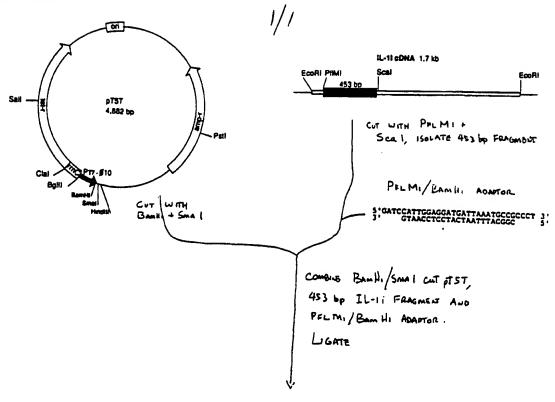
H. IL-li Bioassay.

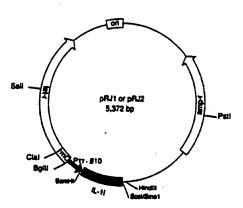
assay for IL-1 inhibitor is based on an IL-1 assay d veloped by S. Nakai, K. Mizuno, M. Kaneta and Y. Hirai. (Biochem. Biophys. Res. Comm. 154:1189-1196. 1988). The principle of this assay is that prolonged exposure to IL-1 is cytotoxic to the human melanoma cell line A375. The cytotoxicity is mediated via the IL-1 receptor. IL-1i antagonizes this cytotoxicity in a dose dependent manner by competing with IL-1 for binding to the IL-1 receptor. The level of toxicity can be quantitated by staining the live cells with crystal violet, extracting the stain from the cells by overnight incubation in 100% ethanol, and measuring the optical density of the extracted stain with a spectrophotometer. The rationale for the use of the A375 melanoma cell bioassay is that it is a simple and direct method for measuring both IL-1 and IL-1i activity. Most other assays that have been described in the literature depend on th ability of IL-1 to activate other products, such as prostaglandin E2 and lactic acid in fibroblasts, and interleukin-2 in T-cells. These secondary products are then measured in order to determine the level of IL-1 present. Although all of these IL-1 activiti s are receptor mediated, the existence of more than one stage mak s these alternative assays cumbersome and subject to a greater probability of error.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A m thod for the production of commercial quantities highly purifi d int rleukin-l inhibitor (IL-li) comprising:
- (1) fermentation of <u>E. coli</u> comprising a plasmid containing a DNA encoding IL-li;
 - (2) cell processing, including:
 - (a) cell recovery,
 - (b) lysis, and
 - (c) clarification of the lysates;
 - (3) a first ion exchange step;
 - (4) a second ion exchange step;
 - (5) the final processing steps including concentration and diafiltration.
 - 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the plasmid is pDD6.
- 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the first ion exchange step uses a column packed with a cationic resin.
- 4. The method of claim 3 wherein the cationic resin is selected from the group consisting of S-Sepharose, SP-C25 Sephadex, CM Sephadex, CM Sepharose, CM cellulose, or CM Toyopearl.
- 5. The method of claim 4 wherein the cationic resin is S-Sepharose.
- 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the second ion exchange step uses a column packed with an anionic resin.
- 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the anionic resin is selected from the group consisting of Q-Sepharose, DEAE-Sepharose Q-Sephadex and DEAE cellulose.

- 8. The method of claim 7 wherein the anionic resin is Q-Sepharose.
- 9. The m thod of claim 1 which furth r compris s a third exchange ion exchange step conducted immediately prior to th final processing steps.
- 10. The method of claim 9 wherein the third ion exchange step is conducted using a cationic resin.
- 11. The method of claim 10 wherein the cationic resin is selected from the group consisting of S-Sepharose, SP-C25
 Sephadex, CM Sephadex, CM Sepharose, CM cellulose, or CM
 Toyopearl.
- 12. The method of claim 11 wherein the cationic resin is S-Sepharose.
- 13. A transformed <u>E. coli</u> host comprising at least on plasmid containing a DNA sequence encoding IL-li which is capabl of producing commercial quantities of highly purified IL-li.
 - 14. The plasmid pDD6.
 - 15. Interleukin-1 inhibitor bound to an anionic resin.
 - 16. Interleukin-1 inhibitor bound to a cationic resin.





D P L E D D * M P P IL-11 coding sequence

Benefit Sdal/Small

B P L E D D * M R P IL-11 coding sequence

COLUMN ATTORNOOM TRATTANATOCOTCOT

D P L E D D * M R P IL-11 coding sequence

COLUMN ATTORNOOM TRATTANATOCOTCOT

Scal/Small

Scal/Small

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/US90/06979 I. CLASSIFICATION Frent BJECT MATTER (if several classification symbols apply, indic According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC IPC(5): C12N 1/21; CO7K 3/00 U.S.Cl.: 435/252.33; 530/350 II. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum Documentation Searched 4 Classification System Classification Symbols U.S. **435/320**, 252.33; 530/350, 416 Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the Fields Searched 5 Chemical Abstracts Data Base (CAS) 1967-1991. Key words: interleukin inhibitor, protein purification, anion, cation exchange III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT 14 Citation of Document, 16 with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages 17 Relevant to Claim No. 19 See Attachment "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention Special categories of cited documents: 15 "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination trying obvious to a person sailed document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "4" document member of the same patent family IV. CERTIFICATION Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search Date of Mailing of this International Search Report -09 APR 1991 22 February 1991 International Searching Authority

PCT/US90/06979

(1) Attachment to form PCT/ISA/210 Continuation in part III Documents to be Considered Relevant

Y	WO, A, 89/01946 (DAYER FT AL) 09 March 1989, see pages 17-19 and 27.	1-12, 15, 16
Y	Journal of Experimental Medicine, Volume 168, issued November 1988, D.L. Rosensteich, et al., "A Human Urine-Derived Interleukin 1 Inhibitor. Homology with Deoxyribonuclease I", pages 1767-1778, especially pages 1768-1770.	1-12, 15, 16
Y	Nature, Volume 343, No. 6256, issued 25 January 1990, C.H. Hannum, et al. "Interleukin-1 Receptor Antagonist Activity of a Human Interleukin-1 Inhibitor", pages 336-340, especially pages 337-338.	1-12, 15, 16
	Bio/Technology, Volume 2, issued December 1984, G. Sofer, "Chromatographic Removal of Pyrogens", pages 1035-1038, especially pages 1036 and 1037.	1-12, 15, 16
Y	Pharmacia Fine Chemicals Catalogue, issued 1980, "Ton Exchange Chromatography", pages 29-31,see entire document.	1-12, 15, 16
Υ .	Biotechniques, Volume 10, issued 01 December 1983, G. Sofer et al, "Designing an Optimal Chromatographic Purification Scheme for Proteins", pages 198-203, especially Figure 3.	1-12, 15, 16

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